

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COTONOU

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PDIP, EINV, DM, US

SUBJECT:AMBASSADOR ADJIBADE'S FAREWELL CALL ON ASST SECY
DAVIS

REF: STATE 225826

1. DAHOMEAN AMBASSADOR ADJIBADE PAID A FAREWELL COURTESY
CALL ON ASST SECY DAVIS OCTOBER 7. MEETING WAS BRIEF AND
WAS MOSTLY CONFINED TO COURTESIES.

2. ONLY SUBSTANTIVE MATTER DISCUSSED WAS QUESTION OF COM-
PENSATION FOR AMERICAN FIRMS MOBIL AND TEXACO, WHOSE
ASSETS IN DAHOMEY WERE NATIONALIZED IN DECEMBER 1974.
DAVIS ASKED ADJIBADE TO PUSH COMPENSATION QUESTION TO
FAVORABLE CONCLUSION ON HIS RETURN TO DAHOMEY. ADJIBADE
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EXPLAINED THAT COMPENSATION FOR ALL FIRMS AFFECTED BY

NATIONALIZATION MEASURES IS MATTER OF PRESSING CONCERN FOR DAHOMEAN GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, DAHOMEAN GOV'T UNDERSTANDS WHY FIRMS WOULD ASK THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO PUT PRESURE ON DAHOMEAN GOV'T, BUT THE LATTER HAS ALREADY ANNOUNCED THAT COMPENSATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING. HOWEVER, SAID ADJIBADE, DAHOMEANS CANNOT ACCEPT FIRMS' DEMANDS FOR INDEMNIFICATION AT FACE VALUE. THERE MUST BE A THOROUGH STUDY BY THE NATIONAL COMMISSION APPOINTED TO CONSIDER

EACH CASE. THIS WILL TAKE TIME. ADJIBADE NOTED THAT FORMIN ALLADAYE HAD BEEN INFORMED IN NEW YORK OF DEPT'S FEELINGS ON THIS MATTER (SUBSEQUENT TO MEETING WITH DAHOMEY EMBASSY REPORTED IN REFTEL). ALLADAYE RESPONDED THAT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE ON SUBJECT (LAST DECEMBER) SHOWED ENTIRE WORLD THAT DAHOMEAN GOVERNMENT INTENDS PROPER COMPENSATION FOR THOSE FIRMS WHOSE ASSETS NATIONALIZED.

3. ADJIBADE SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN ORIGINALLY SLATED TO RETURN TO DAHOMEY FOR A MEETING OF ALL NEW AMBASSADORS GOING OVERSEAS SCHEDULED FOR END OF OCTOBER, BUT THAT HIS DUTIES AT THE UNGA WILL KEEP HIM IN NEW YORK TILL END OF YEAR. ADJIBADE WILL THEN ASSUME AN AMBASSADORIAL POST IN EUROPE. ALTHOUGH DEPT HAD INFORMED HIS EMBASSY, ADJIBADE PROFESSED TO BE UNAWARE THAT THE USG HAD GRANTED AGREEMENT TO HIS PROPOSED SUCCESSOR, NOR DID HE HAVE A FIRM DATE FOR HIS SUCCESSOR'S ARRIVAL.

4. IN VIEW HIS PREOCCUPATION WITH UN AND OTHER ISSUES OUTSIDE SCOPE HIS DUTIES AS AMBASSADOR TO US, AND GIVEN HIS RECENT HOSTILE REMARKS CONCERNING US AT UNGA, AF NOT ORGANIZING LUNCHEON WHICH IS USUAL FAREWELL FOR AFRICAN AMBASSADORS DEPARTING WASHINGTON. KISSINGER

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